Foundation support- suddenly Bud is interested again.

By prearrangment he, Lesar and I were to meet in his office yesterday to discuss the Livingston problem and the problem of Livingston. My purpose was to be certain Bud understood the full potential (he does, at least enoug) and to get some of this off my back. We were delayed getting there, he had calls and then those with whom he had a lunch date came, so when he got into his interest he described as unimpeaching Nixon there was no real time.

I was leaving his office to sit and ~~di~~ discuss other matters with Jim. I told him something like you blew it long ago. He seemed genuinely interested so I said there were a few things I'd tell him if he would promise and then keep the promise this time, to keep his mouth shut. He laughed and said I'd better not.

There was a time when he and the Domocrats lawyers, one of whom is his friend, had joint interest in deposing Bennett. I told him that if they really wanted to blow the whole thing wide open (and this was quite early) I could do it ~~by~~ but my days of freebees for the profit of others were over. In the last minute he asked me to tell him about this by phone and I'd refused. He had agreed to get all the Bennett depositions. He got one. He agreed several times to get those of other Bennett employees. He got none. I left it at that and long ago passed all that writing.

He did make the later (this summer)marrangement for me to speak to the Wolfson foundation. Actually it was to have been with Mr. and Mrs. Wolfson ~~inck~~ at their estate but it was with Wolfson's Jacksonville business manager at his office. He made an unsuccessful pitch to the board then.

But apparently my needle of yesterday pricked him where he is again willing to feel. I was quite angry about all this extraordinary waste of my time cleaning up after lawyers' stupidities (or worse) and had just finished typing a fairly strong declaration on it when Jim called for a number of reasons. One was that Bud was again so willing to do something that he was willing to fly to Europe to see Wolfson to seek his help. Jim had told ~~im~~ Bud that I'd probably not trust him with the information I have put together. This did not seem to discourage Bud. I told Jim that if my understanding and recollection were correct, the Wolfson's were due back before now and their board is to meet some time this month. But I was willing to run some risk.

Jim phoned back suppertime about this and other matters. He said to be prepared to fly to Florida this weekend, that Bud is ~~this~~ interested and Wolfson is that upset apparently about the pardon.

There had come a time later in the summer when I had decided to accept Arvin's invitation to make an approach for support of publication of WW IV or PM, I don't now remember which. By then Wolfson had liquidated those holdings Arvin managed and Arvin was looking for something else to do. He wrote me that Bud could now have more influence as Wolfson's lawyer. I made a copy, showed it to Jim, gave it to Bud, and heard nothing further.

Whether or not something now comes of it, this time it was not my idea. I had neither suggested nor hinted at it.

We'll probably discuss it tomorrow, when we are scheduled to meet on what I should have had out of the way not later than 1971 but was kept away from and had no desire to be part of. But it is now a problem and I'm the devil's advocate.

When I got Bob's capitulation (or words of capitulation) today I phoned Bud to read it to him. He made no reference to this. Nor, for that matter, had he any comment on the apparent (who can tell?) success with Bob.

HW 9/11/74